



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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THE COMMISSION WELCOMES RESPONSES TO STAFF WORKSHOPS

GN Docket No. 09-51

As the Commission prepares for the development of a National Broadband Plan,¹ Commission staff have hosted and continue to host a series of broadband workshops in order to better understand the broadband marketplace as well as the social implications and potential of broadband.² The conversation and debate are an important part of the record upon which the Commission will build its plan. We encourage anyone interested to respond to the facts and reasoning asserted during these workshops, or to raise facts and reasoning that should have been discussed.³

Deadlines: Responses to workshops held from August 6 to August 20 should be filed with the Commission by **September 15**.⁴

Responses to workshops held from August 25 to September 15 should be filed with the Commission by **October 2**.⁵

Responses to workshops held from September 16 to October 20 should be filed with the Commission by **October 30**.⁶

¹ See American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115 (2009) (Recovery Act).

² See FCC, Broadband.gov, Workshops, <http://www.broadband.gov/workshops.html> (last visited Aug. 24, 2009). Detailed information about each workshop is available at this website, including presentation materials, video recordings, and written transcripts.

³ To the extent future public notices are published related to questions on a specific workshop, the timing of comments to such workshops will be governed by that specific public notice.

⁴ This deadline includes the following workshops: E-Gov/Civic Engagement (8/6); Deployment Wired - General (8/12); Deployment Wireless - General (8/12); Deployment Unserved/Underserved (8/12); Technology/Fixed Broadband (8/13); Technology/Wireless (8/13); International Lessons (8/18); Opportunities for Small and Disadvantaged Businesses (8/18); Adoption/Utilization – Building the Fact Base: The State of Broadband Adoption and Utilization (8/19); Adoption/Utilization – Low Adoption and Utilization – Importance of Broadband and Applications (8/19); Adoption/Utilization – Programmatic Efforts to Increase Broadband Adoption and Usage – What Works and What Doesn't? (8/19); Broadband Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities (8/20); and Education (8/20).

⁵ This deadline includes the following workshops: Public Safety and Homeland Security (8/25); Smart Grid, Broadband and Climate Change (8/25); Economic Growth, Job Creation, and Private Investment (8/26); Job Training (8/26); Technology/Applications and Devices (8/27); State and Local Governments: Toolkits and Best Practices (9/1); Benchmarks (9/2); Best Practices/Big Ideas (9/3); Broadband Consumer Context (9/9); and Health Care (9/15).

⁶ This deadline includes the following workshops: The Role of Content in the Broadband Ecosystem (9/17); Spectrum (9/17); Cyber Security (9/30); Diversity and Civil Rights Issues in Broadband Policy (10/2); Economic Issues in Broadband Competition (10/9); and Broadband Accessibility for People with Disabilities II: Barriers, Opportunities and Policy Recommendations (10/20).

We encourage those interested to file online using the Commission's electronic comment filing system (ECFS).⁷ Sending your response in this way is a 2-step process.

1. The first step is to complete the cover sheet with information as required.
 - a. Please enter the proceeding number(s) applicable (e.g., 09-51)
 - b. Responses to the workshops should be filed as "ex parte" notices. When completing box number 12 on the cover sheet, please select "Notice of Ex Parte" from the drop menu.
2. The second step is to choose one of the two transmittal methods: sending a file that you attach, or sending a short message that you type directly on the page.

All filings should refer to GN Docket No. 09-51. Please title filings responsive to this Notice as "Workshop Response" or "Workshop Response – [title of workshop]" (for example, Workshop Response – Education). Interested parties may file responses to workshops held through August 20 on or before **September 15, 2009**, and responses to workshops held through September 15 on or before **October 2, 2009** and responses to workshops held through October 20 on or before October 30, 2009. All pleadings are to reference GN Docket No. 09-51. Submissions may be filed using: (1) the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), (2) the Federal Government's e-Rulemaking Portal, or (3) by filing paper copies.⁸

- **Electronic Filers:** Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/> or the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the Web site for submitting comments.
- For ECFS filers, if multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, filers must transmit one electronic copy of the comments for each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions, filers should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in response.
- **Paper Filers:** Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

- The Commission's contractor will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building.
- Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

⁷ Additional instructions for filing electronically, or by other means, are detailed below.

⁸ See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Red 11322 (1998).

- U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington DC 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (tty).

All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. Parties should also send a copy of their filings to Gary Remondino, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, Room 5-C143, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554, or by e-mail to Gary.Remondino@fcc.gov. Parties shall also serve one copy with the Commission's copy contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc. (BCPI), Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554, (202) 488-5300, or via e-mail to fcc@bcpiweb.com.

Documents in GN Docket No. 09-51 are available for public inspection and copying during business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th St. SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. The documents may also be purchased from BCPI, telephone (202) 488-5300, facsimile (202) 488-5563, TTY (202) 488-5562, e-mail fcc@bcpiweb.com. These documents may also be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs>.

This matter shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.⁹ Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentations must contain summaries of the substance of the presentations and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one- or two-sentence description of the views and arguments presented generally is required.¹⁰ Other rules pertaining to oral and written *ex parte* presentations in permit-but-disclose proceedings are set forth in section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules.¹¹

For further information, contact Ian Dillner of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1191.

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⁹ See 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200, 1.1206.

¹⁰ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).

¹¹ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).